



BALLOCH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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Website: <https://ballochcommunitycouncil.co.uk/>

MINUTES OF MEETING ON 20th September 2023

1	Members present: I Williams, R Arkell, M Stuart, L Williams, A Murray, P Sharp In Attendance: Cllr T Robertson, Cllr M Reid Members of the public – M Quemby Apologies: G Spalding, D Johns (BVT Rep)
2	Minutes of Previous Meeting : Proposed: Lesley Williams Seconded: M Stuart
3	Matters Arising: B Innes updated – quotes in from farmers re sorting the field beside the school. Due to the poor condition of the ground it will need to be disced and topped. They will attempt to do whole field. No response from HC regarding ownership. No response from legal department regarding projects to begin. IW to email Jane Day to confirm if work can begin in the field. Stratton Homebargains – 2nd consultation event held at the end of August. It is proposed that project will happen in stages. Smithton CC mixed feelings about the project. Allotments are the preferred option – group being established to explore possibilities of setting this up. Developer contribution report - no report available yet – M Reid will chase up.
4	Chapelton Meeting to be held on Tuesday 26th. No minutes from last meeting. M Reid to request agenda/notes from last meeting for meeting on Tuesday. B Innes – on program – first 10 house up and watertight, roofs on. Drainage continuing. Hold up on overhead wires diversion but SSE planning to complete imminently. On track for a February 2025 handover date. All houses to be handed over at the same time.
5	Highland Councillors' Report: Culloden Academy – outlook is bleak. Council finances – bleak. Reasons - borrowing costs have increased, rising interest rates, HC only receives a small grant from Scottish Gvt. LEIP funding not come through. LEIP only for new buildings not extensions. Grant funding not increased – cost continue to rise. Growing housing list means houses will continues to be built – all 49 new homes in Chapelton are Highland Council and Highland Home Alliance. Councillors Reid and Robertson spoke openly about the huge challenges HC faces and how difficult decisions are being made. Culloden Academy Sports field - MUGA - £1.5million secured to spend on sports field. Planning in place. Guarantees from Raymond Bremner (leader of council) and Glynis Campbell-Sinclair (head of infrastructure) have made assurances that this will go ahead. Health HUB – M Reid attending a meeting 21/09/2023. Councillor Reid – look at projects to support young people 14 – 18 year olds. Looking to access funding from Community Regeneration Project and the new Ardersier Port has funding. Proposal that paid leaders would be put in charge of project. Academy Street – HC got £800 000 to explore the options. Discussed the misinformation there seems to be about the project. New Chief Executive – Derek Brown Need to keep Culloden Academy at the top of the agenda so that if funding options become available the plans can move forward.
6	Chair's Report. Community Council Elections – forms to be in for October – IW to send details. PS to explore options for Scout Group in Balloch.
7	Treasurer's Report. Business Bank Account balance as of 9th August £6949.68 Treasurer's Account balance as of 22nd August - £1577.44 HC Annual Grant of £546.82 has been paid – will show on next bank statement.

8	Secretary's Correspondence. Data Protection – cheque to be sent and details updated.
9	BVT – no update
10	Any Other Business: M Stuart – noticeboard difficult to sees. B Innes to help put up a noticeboard.
11	Date of Next Meeting: 18 th October (if elections complete) 2023 Meeting Dates: 15 Nov